

Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 2-16 and 20-22 are pending in the application, with claims 2, 3, 4, 10, 12, 13 and 15 being the independent claims. Claims 1 and 17-19 is sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. New claims 20-22 are sought to be added. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Support for new claims 20-22 are found at least in original claims 16-19.

Conclusion

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. Applicants believe the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.


John T. Haran
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 58,010

Date: 8/29/06

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600
574998